

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6611

BILL NUMBER: HB 1341

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 18, 2006

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Lake and St. Joseph Superior Court Judges.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Brown C

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: Local

Summary of Legislation: *Election of Superior Court Judges-* The bill requires the election of superior court judges in Lake County and St. Joseph County.

Judicial Nominating Commission- The bill repeals provisions related to the Lake County and St. Joseph County judicial nominating commissions.

Terms of Current Judges- The bill continues the terms of the Lake and St. Joseph superior court judges in office on June 30, 2007, until the date the judges' terms will end under the law in effect on June 30, 2007.

Effective Date: July 1, 2007.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: *Election of Superior Court Judges-* The election of judges in Lake and St. Joseph Counties would not have an impact on local expenditures. Under current law, judges in Lake and St. Joseph Counties are placed on the general election ballot every six years for a vote of retention. Given that the bill would require the judges to be directly elected by a general election ballot every six years, the general election ballot may need to be reorganized to accommodate the direct election of the judges.

Judicial Nominating Commission- Under the bill, the Lake and St. Joseph judicial nominating commissions would be repealed. Under current law, members of the judicial nominating commissions are not directly

compensated by salary, but are to be compensated for actual expenses incurred in performing their duties. Both counties could experience a slight reduction in expenditures under this provision.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected: Lake and St. Joseph Counties.

Information Sources:

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